## STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## **DOCKET NO. 2021-9-E DOCKET NO. 2019-226-E**

Incorporated's 2021 Integrated  Resource Plan (IRP) (See also Docket	JOINT MOTION REQUESTING AMENDED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
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Southern Alliance for Clean Energy ("SACE"), South Carolina Coastal Conservation League ("CCL"), Sierra Club, Carolinas Clean Energy Business Association ("CCEBA"), (collectively, "Intervenors") jointly move for an amendment to procedural schedule in the above-referenced docket. In support of this motion, Intervenors state the following:

- Pursuant to South Carolina Public Service Commission ("Commission")
   Order No. 2021-429, DESC filed its 2021 Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP")
   Update on August 17, 2021.
- 2. On August 25, 2021, the Clerk's Office issued a notice of hearing and prefiling deadlines. The original schedule directed all parties to file direct testimony on September 9, 2021, and responsive testimony on September 23, 2021, and set a hearing date for September 30, 2021.
- 3. On August 26, 2021, the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") and Dominion Energy South Carolina ("DESC") filed letters requesting that the Commission revisit its original procedural schedule. Act 62 requires ORS to review each electric utility's annual update and submit a report to the

Commission providing a recommendation concerning the reasonableness of the annual update. S.C. Code Ann. § 58-37-40(D). Accordingly, ORS stated its plan to file the statutorily required report within one hundred twenty (120) days after the update was filed and requested that any hearing required be re-scheduled to occur after that date. DESC also requested that the schedule be revised to allow sufficient time for ORS to prepare its report, but stated that Act 62 anticipated only a paper proceeding for IRP update proceedings. DESC proposed that all parties be given an opportunity to submit comments on the ORS Report thirty (30) days after its filing and to submit responsive comments 14 days after the initial comments.

- 4. SACE and CCL, with the support of Sierra Club and CCEBA, submitted a letter on August 27, 2021, expressing their support for ORS's and DESC's requests for the Commission to revise its original schedule, as well as their agreement with DESC's proposed comment deadlines. However, SACE and CCL stated that the Commission has broad general authority to schedule a hearing if it believes doing so to be in the public interest, *see* S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-1930, and recommended that the Commission allow parties to request a hearing or oral argument on particular issues, with the Commission having the ultimate discretion on whether to schedule a hearing on those issues.
- 5. The Commission issued a subsequent directive holding the original deadlines in abeyance and scheduling an oral argument on this procedural schedule for September 8, 2021. Order No. 2021-608. SACE, CCL, Sierra

- Club, CCEBA, DESC, and ORS (collectively the "Parties") appeared before the Commission at the oral argument.
- 6. At the conclusion of the SACE and CCL's presentation, Commissioner Ervin directed the Parties to confer and jointly propose a procedural schedule.

Accordingly, to promote the reasonable and economical determination of these proceedings, Intervenors respectfully submit the following procedural schedule:

- December 15, 2021: Deadline for ORS to file its report on the DESC 2021 IRP
   Update. This deadline is consistent with ORS' request to submit its report one
   hundred twenty (120) days after August 17, 2021, when DESC filed its 2021
   IRP Update.
- January 14, 2022: Deadline for interested parties to provide comments on the ORS Report and IRP Update. This is consistent with DESC's proposal to allow parties to file comments thirty (30) days after the ORS report is filed.
- **January 28, 2022:** Deadline for interested parties to file responsive comments. This is consistent with DESC's proposal to allow parties to file responsive fourteen (14) days after the ORS report is filed.

Intervenors further move that the Commission allow parties, in their January 28 responsive comments, to request an evidentiary hearing on issues the parties believe are not capable of resolution based on the IRP Update, ORS Report and comments.

ORS has indicated that it does not object to the proposed procedural schedule above or the request that parties be permitted to request an evidentiary hearing.

Respectfully submitted this 21st day of September, 2021.

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the parties listed below have been served via first class U.S. Mail or electronic mail with a copy of the *Joint Motion Requesting an Amendment of the Procedural Schedule* filed by the South Carolina Coastal Conservation League, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, Carolinas Clean Energy Business Association, and Sierra Club today.

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This 21st day of September, 2021. *s/Kate Mixson*